AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1- 70. (Canceled)

71. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical formulation of claim [[70]] 80, wherein the hydroxypropyl methylcellulose has a viscosity of about up to about 40cP.

72. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical formulation of claim 82, further comprising a surfactant.

Claims 73 - 75. (Canceled)

76. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical formulation of claim 82 in tablet form.

77. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical formulation of claim 76, wherein the tablet is coated.

78. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical formulation of claim 77, wherein the coating is an acid-resistant coating.

79. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical formulation of claim 78, wherein the coating comprises HPMC-phthalate.

80. (Currently Amended) A method for producing a controlled release pharmaceutical formulation, the method comprising:

a) forming a matrix comprising:

i) glyceryl behenate comprising about 10-36 weight percent of the formulation;

ii) low viscosity hydroxypropyl methylcellulose comprising about 13-18 weight percent of the formulation;

iii) 500mg of a clarithromycin component, or derivative thereof, ~~comprising about 42 weight percent of the formulation~~,

wherein the components are combined to allow the glyceryl behenate and the hydroxypropyl methylcellulose to form the matrix and the clarithromycin component is dispersed within the matrix; and

b) compressing the matrix into tablet form.

81. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 80, further comprising sieving the matrix prior to compressing the matrix into tablet form.

82. (Currently amended) A controlled release pharmaceutical formulation comprising a matrix, said matrix comprising:

a) glyceryl behenate comprising about 10-36 weight percent of the formulation;

b) low viscosity hydroxypropyl methylcellulose comprising about 13-18 weight percent of the formulation and dispersed within the matrix; and

c) 500mg clarithromycin, or derivative thereof, ~~comprising about 42 weight percent of the formulation and~~ dispersed within the matrix;

and wherein the glyceryl behenate, hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, and clarithromycin are combined under conditions suitable for generating the matrix, and wherein the matrix provides a controlled release formulation for once daily administration of clarithromycin;

and wherein the glyceryl behenate provides sustained release of the clarithromycin or clarithromycin derivative, and wherein the hydroxypropyl methylcellulose forms a viscous layer in an aqueous medium through which the clarithromycin or clarithromycin derivative diffuses upon solubilization thereby effective to provide controlled release of the clarithromycin or clarithromycin derivative over about a twenty-four hour period.

83. (Cancelled)

84. (Currently amended) [[A]] The controlled release pharmaceutical formulation ~~comprising a matrix, said matrix~~ of claim 80 comprising:

a) 350 mg glycerol behenate ~~comprising about 22 weight percent of the formulation~~;

b) 150 mg low viscosity hydroxypropyl methylcellulose ~~comprising about 17 weight percent of the formulation and~~ dispersed within the matrix; and

c) 500mg clarithromycin, or derivative thereof, ~~comprising about 43 weight percent of the formulation and~~ dispersed within the matrix;

and wherein the pharmaceutical formulation is presented in the form of a coated tablet.